9041. Phyllostachys castillonis.

Bamboo.

From Yokohama, Japan. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 983, July 28, 1902), November, 1902.

Kimmci-chiku. "Plants of the 'golden' or 'striped' bamboo of Japan. This species has the most decorative culms of any of the Japanese bamboos, being of a golden yellow color striped with green. When young these stems are brilliant in their freshness and a clump of them is a most beautiful sight. This bamboo is said to have been introduced into Japan from Korea. It is by no means a common sort, even in Japan. Owing to the fact that the green stripes fade after the culms are cut, its decorative value is confined to the living stems, especially those one year old. The plant grows to a height of 15 to 16 feet, even occasionally to 39 feet, and the culms attain 10 inches in circumference. If planted in a sheltered place on rich soil which is kept well mulched it will produce in a few years a handsome clump of the golden stems. The leaves are slightly variegated. It is exceedingly variable in the variegations, both of leaf and stem, the green stripes sometimes being scarcely visible. Sprouts appear in June in Japan and are said to be edible, though I have never heard of this variety being grown for food. It is essentially an ornamental plant." (Fairchild.)

9042. Phyllostachys nigra.

Bamboo.

From Yokohama, Japan. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 984, July 28, 1902), November, 1902.

Kuro-chiku, Kurodaké, or Gomadaké. "Plants of the Japanese black bamboo. This species is characterized by its dark brown to purple-black culms, which make it one of the handsomest species in Japan. It does not grow much over 20 feet in height, even under the best conditions of soil and climate. The shoots do not turn black until the second year, the first season being green with dark, freekle-like spots. The black bamboo formed at one time a considerable source of revenue to Japan, being largely exported to Europe and America, but of recent years the demand for it has fallen off. The growers say it is because the exporters have shipped immature culms. It is still extensively used for walking sticks, umbrella handles, etc. It grows largest on rich alluvial soil, needs plenty of phosphoric acid and potash, and the ground should be heavily mulched so that it will not dry out." (Fairchild.)

9043. Phyllostachys henonis, var. madaradake. Bamboo.

From Yokohama, Japan. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 985, July 28, 1902), November, 1902.

Madaradake or Ummon-chiku. "Plants of the mottled bamboo from Hakone, province of Omi, arranged for through the assistance of Professor Hirase, a well-known Japane se botanist. This variety is characterized by having distinct blotches (possibly of fungus origin) on its culms. These blotches are of a dark-brown color, sometimes with concentric rings of a darker hue. The mottled culms are especially prized for fancy furniture making, as the mottling is permanent. The plant resembles Phyllostachys henonis in growth, and under favorable conditions attains a height of over 15 feet. The blotches on this bamboo do not make their appearance until the third or fourth year, and are more pronounced in the shady parts of the grove. If exposed to bright sunshine it is said the blotches fail to appear. This variety should be given especial attention, not planted in very small clumps, and grown on rich, well-drained soil in locations well sheltered from the wind. It is probably not so hardy as some other sorts and until well established should be protected with a heavy mulch of straw in the winter. The soil should not be allowed to dry out, but should be kept moist by an inch of good mulch during the summer as well." (Fairchild.)

9044. Phyllostachys bambusoides.

Bamboo.

From Yokohama, Japan. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 986, July 29, 1902), November, 1902.

Yadoke. "The arrow bamboo, from whose culms the Japanese archers of feudal times had their shafts prepared. The culms are especially suited to this purpose, for they are straight, extremely hard, and of about the proper diameter. The arrows of present-day archers in Japan are also made of this bamboo. The sort was first introduced into England in 1894, Mittord says, and is consequently a comparatively new kind. In Japan it is not so common as many other types, being seen rarely in